

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the application is requested.

Claims 1, 2 and 4-11 remain in the application. Claims 1, 2 and 4-11 are subject to examination. Claims 1, 2, 4 and 10 have been amended. Claims 3 and 12 have been canceled.

In the second paragraph on page 2 of the above-identified Office Action, claims 1, 2, 5, 6, and 8-11 have been rejected as being fully anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,512,268 to Ueno (hereinafter Ueno) under 35 U.S.C. § 102.

Claim 1 has been amended with the features of claim 12 in view of the Examiner's statement that claim 12 is allowable. The remaining claims have been amended to be compatible with amended claim 1.

In the second paragraph on page 4 of the above-identified Office Action, claim 7 has been rejected as being obvious over Ueno in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,455,442 to Neilson et al. under 35 U.S.C. § 103.

Claim 7 is depends from amended claim 1. Amended claim 1 is believed to be allowable and therefore claim 7 is also believed to be allowable.

It is accordingly believed to be clear that none of the references, whether taken alone or in any combination, either show or suggest the features of claim 1. Claim 1 is, therefore, believed to be patentable over the art. The dependent claims are believed to be patentable as well because they all are ultimately dependent on claim 1.

In view of the foregoing, reconsideration and allowance of claims 1, 2 and 4-11 are solicited.

Petition for extension is herewith made. The extension fee for response within a period of one month pursuant to Section 1.136(a) in the amount of \$110.00 in accordance with Section 1.17 is enclosed herewith.

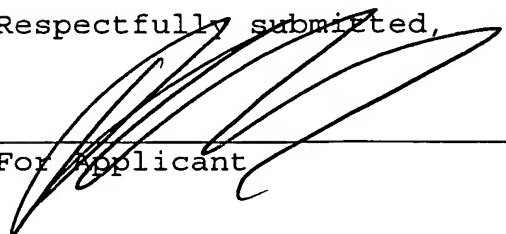
If an extension of time is required, petition for extension is herewith made. Any extension fee associated therewith should be charged to the Deposit Account of Lerner and Greenberg, P.A., No. 12-1099.

Please charge any other fees that might be due with respect to Sections 1.16 and 1.17 to the Deposit Account of Lerner

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and Greenberg, P.A., No. 12-1099.

Respectfully submitted,



For Applicant

REL:cgm

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